Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) including a welding apparatus (1) with a welding torch unit (29) connectable thereto via a hose pack (23, 28), wherein at least one control device (4), a welding current source (2) and optionally a wire feeder unit (30) are arranged in the welding apparatus (1), wherein the welding torch unit (29) is formed by at least two separate welding torches (10, 35) intended to carry out at least two independent, separate welding processes, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first welding torch (10) is configured to carry out a welding process and at least a second welding torch (35) is configured to carry out a cold-metal transfer welding process with a forward-backward movement of a welding wire (32), and that a device for synchronizing the welding processes carried out by the at least two welding torches (10, 35) is provided.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first welding torch (10) is comprised of a WIG/MAG welding torch.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first welding torch (10) is comprised of a WIG welding torch.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first welding torch (10) is comprised of a plasma burner.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first welding torch (10) is likewise designed to carry out a cold-metal transfer welding process.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first welding torch (10) is comprised of a laser unit (76) which, in the welding torch unit (29), is combined with the second welding torch (35) for the cold-metal transfer welding process.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the first welding torch (10) precedes the second welding torch (35) in the welding direction.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein two separately controllable current sources (2, 38) are arranged in the welding apparatus (1) to supply the welding torch unit (29) with energy.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein only one current source (2) is arranged in the welding apparatus (1) to supply the welding torch unit (29) with energy, which current source is alternately connected with the respectively active welding torch (10, 35).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the at least two welding torches (10, 35) comprise a common gas nozzle (37).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the at least two welding torches (10, 35) of the welding torch unit (29) are laterally offset relative to one another in the longitudinal direction of the weld, i.e., in the welding direction.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the welding wires (13, 32) of the at least two welding torches (10, 35) are comprised of different materials.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended). A welding unit (27) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the welding wires (13, 32) of the at least two welding torches (10, 35) have different diameters.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended). A welding method combining at least two different welding processes, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least welding process is comprised of a cold-metal transfer welding process, wherein a consumable welding wire is moved forward and backward, and that the at least two welding processes are synchronized in time.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended). A welding method according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a welding process is comprised of a MIG/MAG welding process.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended). A welding method according to claim 14, ~~characterized in the~~ wherein a welding process is comprised of a WIG welding process.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended). A welding method according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a welding precess is comprised of a plasma welding process.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended). A welding method according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least two welding processes are comprised of a cold-metal transfer welding process.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended). A welding method according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a welding process is comprised of a laser welding process.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended). A welding method according to ~~any one of claims 14-19, characterized in that~~ claim 14, wherein the cold-metal transfer welding process follows the other welding process(es) in the welding direction.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended). A welding method according to ~~any one of claims 14-20, characterized in that~~ claim 14, wherein at least two welding processes using consumable welding wires are temporally synchronized in a manner that the droplet detachments from the welding wires of the at least two welding processes take place simultaneously.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended). A welding method according to ~~any one of claims 14-19, characterized in that~~ claim 14, wherein at least two welding processes using melting welding wires are temporally synchronized in a manner that the droplet detachment from the welding wire of one welding process takes place in a manner temporally offset relative to the droplet detachment of the other welding process(es).